

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system including

one or more business entities defining a head of a supply chain;

one or more sets of tiers of suppliers, wherein each said set of tiers is disposed in an extended supply chain;

a ~~[[an]]~~ workstation coupled to said one or more business entities and said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers;

a database including information from said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers relating to two or more of the following: price, inventory, delivery schedules, backorders and supply interruptions, exceptional events, contracts, and past transactions;

a dictionary of translations that can be used to translate transitive information in said information from said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers for cross-tier communication in said extended supply chain; and

an order collaboration system coupled to said workstation, whereby said one or more business entities can view updates to supply chain conditions for said plurality of said tiers.

NOT FOR ENTRY
not approved for 7/24/06
7/24/06